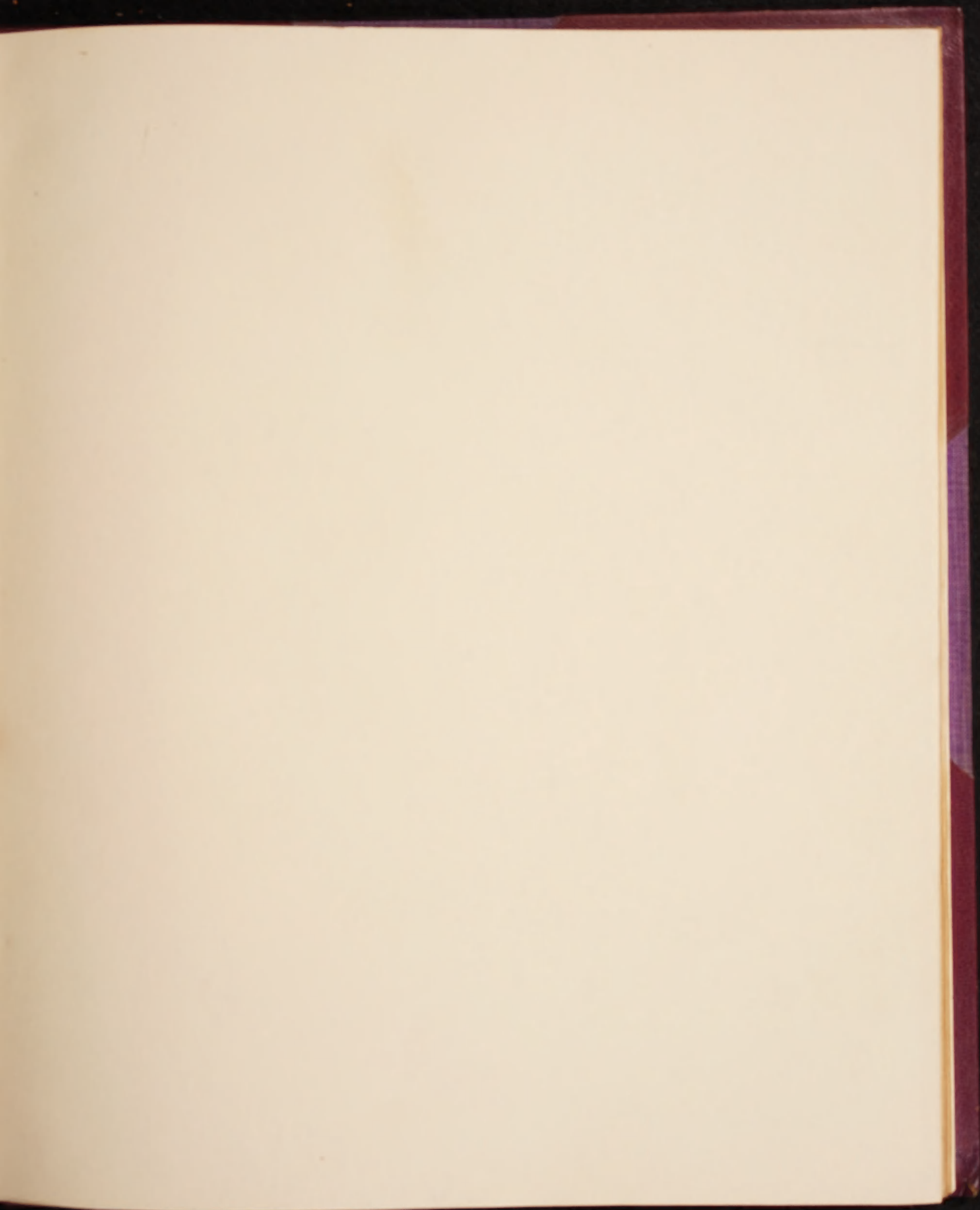
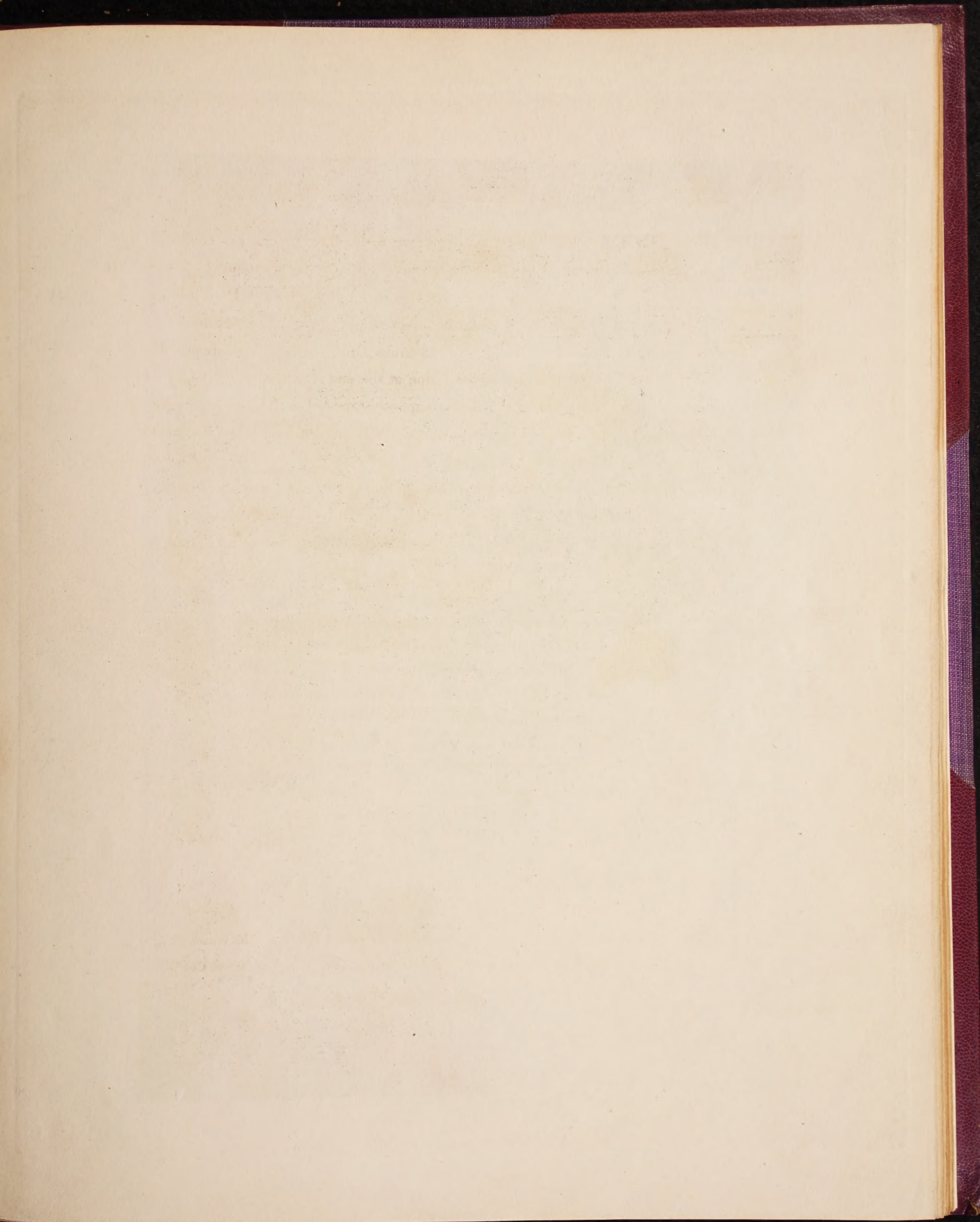


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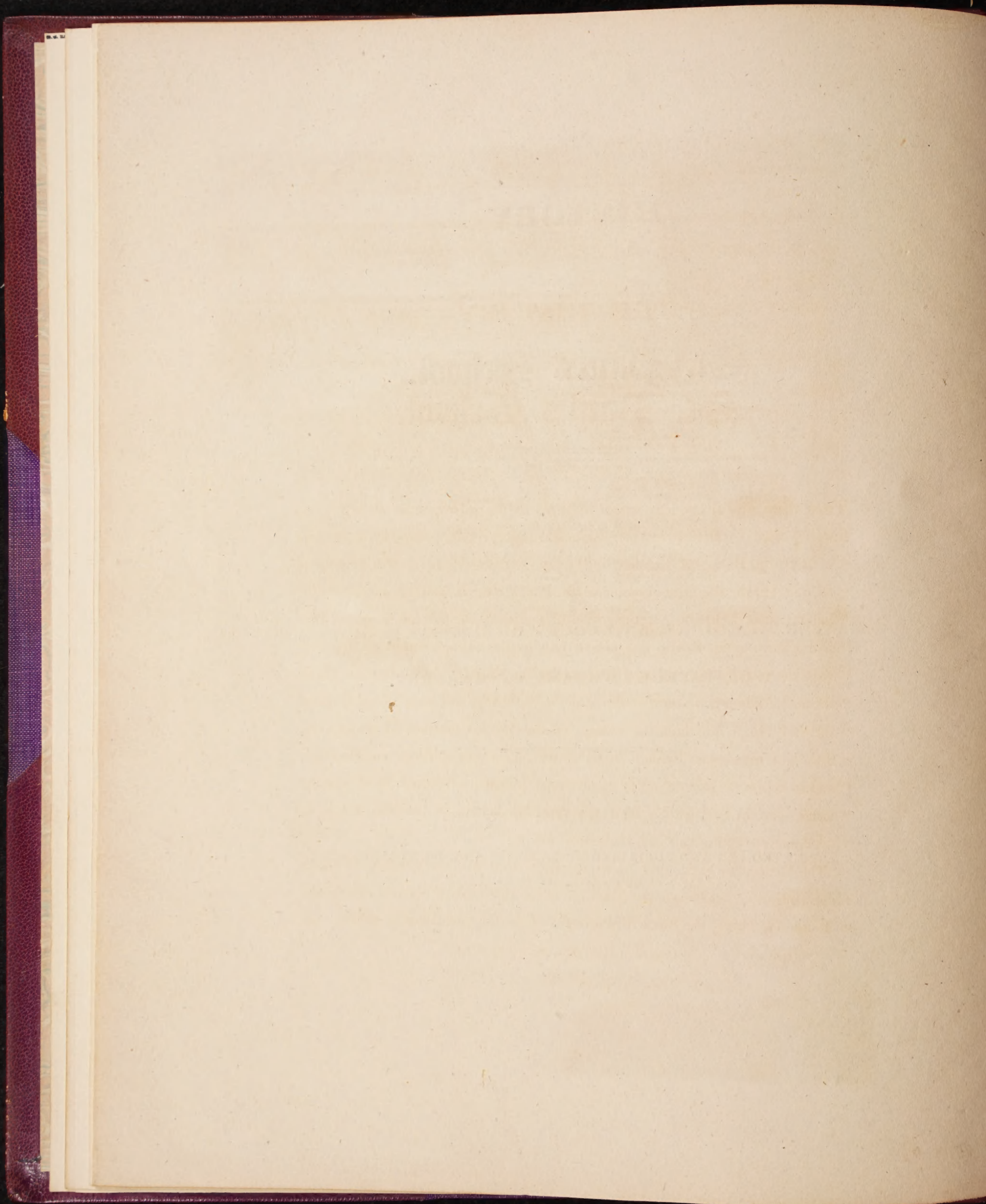
ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.

THE
HISTORY
OF
St. Paul's School.

DEDICATED
TO THE
MASTER, WARDENS, AND COURT OF ASSISTANTS OF THE
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M.DCCC.XVI.



THE HISTORY

OF

St. Paul's School.

THAT there was an ancient school attached to the metropolitan church, is an historical fact of which its records give ample proof. “ It appears, by the charter “ of Richard, Bishop of London, in the time of King Henry I. that he granted “ to one Hugh, the Schoolmaster of St. Paul's church, and his successor, the “ habitation of Durandus, at the corner of the turret, or bell-tower, where William, Dean of St. Paul's, had placed him by the bishop's command, together “ with the custody of the library belonging to the church. In which place Hugh “ succeeded Henry, a canon of the same bishop's, who had been educated under “ the said Hugh, to whom the bishop, besides the house which Hugh enjoyed, “ granted a meadow at Fulham, together with the tithes of Ilings and Madeley : “ and in farther augmentation of its revenues, Richard, surnamed Nigel, who sat “ bishop here in Richard I.'s time, gave unto this school all the tithes arising in “ his demesnes at Fulham and Horsete*,” &c.

The Chancellor of St. Paul's was not only vested with the direction of affairs which concerned teaching at the church, but was absolute over the few who taught in London. Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, issued his mandate, now

* Dugdale's *Hist. of St. Paul's*, pp. 9, 10.

among the records of St. Paul's, directing that no person should presume to teach within London without licence from Henry, then Master, except the Masters of St. Mary le Bow and St. Martin's le Grand, under pain of excommunication. The appointments were made by the chancellor, but the dean and chapter only could give the Master possession, who was to be sober, honest, and learned; in short, a person, the tenor of whose life would be an animating example to his scholars; a teacher not only of grammar but of virtue. "Eis non solum grammatices, sed etiam virtutis magister." Such was the ancient School of St. Paul's, and such the foundation on which the present school was erected.

This establishment, which has so long flourished, and is still flourishing, and among whose scholars are recorded the names of men eminently distinguished for their learning, their talents, and their virtues, was founded by Dr. John Colet, Dean of St. Paul's, in the year 1512, by the warrant of Henry VIII.

"SUPPLICATIO AD REGIAM MAIESTATEM

" In the moste humble wyse shewith and besechith youre mooste gracious
 " highnesse youre contynuall oratour John Colet, Deane of the cathedrall church
 " of Seynt Paule, within youre citie of London, That where youre said oratour
 " to the pleasur of God and for and in augmentation and encrease as well of
 " connyng as of vertuose lyving within this youre realme hathe nowe of late
 " edified within the cimiterie of the saide cathedrall church a schole-house
 " (wherein he purposith that children as well borne and to be borne within youre
 " said citie as elsewhere) to the same repaying shall not oonely in contynuance
 " be substancially taughte and lernyd in Laten tung, but also instructed and in-
 " formed in vertuose condiciouns, which by Goddes grace shall largely extende
 " and abunde to the common weal of the people of this youre realme, and to
 " the grete coumfort and comoditie of youre grace and to youre heires, to have

“ yong children of youre realme both in conyng and vertue graciously brought
“ up in avoydyng many folde vices which these dayes for lake of suche instruc-
“ cion in youth been gretly rooted and contynued in yong people, to the grete
“ displeasur of God. And for the perpetuall contynuanee of the charges of the
“ same, for ever to be borne, paied, and susteyned according to such ordre and
“ direccion as youre said oratour by speciall favour and licence of youre highnesse
“ purposith to make and ordeyne, he intendith to geve and mortyse landes and
“ tenements of the clere yerely valew of fifty and three poundis in the countie of
“ Buk, to some body corporat at his denomynacion. In consideracion whereof
“ it may please youre highnesse of youre most habundant grace and goodnesse, by
“ youre gracious letters patent under youre grete seale in due forme to be made,
“ to graunt and licence youre said oratour to geve and graunt mans londs and
“ tenements in the said countie of the clere yerely valew of fifty and three
“ poundis above all charges to som body corporate, and licence to the same body
“ corporat the same landes and tenements to receyve and take to the intent before-
“ said, eny statute of landes and tenements to mortmayne not to be putt notwith-
“ standing, and that withoute fyn fee or other charges therefore to be paide or
“ borne to youre grace. And youre said oratour shall daiely pray to God for
“ the prosperitie of youre moste noble and royall estate long to endure.”

“ WARRANT CUM MANU REGIA ASSIGNAT.

“ To the King oure Sovereigne Lorde,

“ Pleaseth youre highnesse of youre mooste noble and habundant grace to
“ graunt unto youre feithfull Chapeleyn John Colet, Deane of the cathedrall
“ church of Seynt Paule, within youre citie of London, your gracious letters pa-
“ tente, in due forme to be made according to the tenour ensuyng:

“ Rex omnibus ad quos, &c.

“ Salutem sciatis, quòd nos considerantes pium propositum dilecti nobis ma-
“ gistri Johannis Colet sacre theologie doctoris decam ecclesie cathedre Sancti
“ Pauli Londini in edificatione jam cujusdam scola in cimiterio dicte ecclesie pro
“ pueris in eadem scola erudiendis in bonis moribus et litteratura pro meliori sus-
“ tentatione unius magistri et unius ostiarii sive duorum ostiariorum ejusdem et
“ aliarum rerum necessariarum ibidem fiendarum de gratia nostra speciali ac ex
“ certa scientia et mero motu nostris concessimus et licentiam dedimus ac per
“ presentes concedimus et licentiam damus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum
“ in nobis est. Custodibus et communitati misterii mercerie civitatis Londini et
“ successoribus suis qui ipsi et successores sui dominia maneria terras tenementa
“ redditus reversiones servicia et hereditamenta quacunque ac alias possessiones
“ quascunque ad annum valorem quinquaginta et trium librarum ultra omnia
“ onera et reprisus a quacunque persona sive a quibuscunque personis ea eis dare
“ concedere ligare vel assignare volente seu volentibus. Licet de nobis in capite
“ vel aliter aut de alii personis vel persona mediate vel immediate teneante acqui-
“ rere et recipere possint. Habend et tenend sibi et successoribus suis imper-
“ petuum et eidem persone sive eiisdem personis quod ipse dominia maneria ter-
“ ras tenementa reddidit reversiones servicia et cetera permissa. Custodibus et
“ communitati misterie predicte et successoribus suis predictis ad annum valorem
“ predictum in forma predicta dare concedere ligare vel assignare possint et va-
“ leant similiter licenciam dedimus et concessimus ac damus et concedimus spe-
“ cialem per presentes absque impedimento impetitione seu grauamine nostri vel
“ heredum aut successorum nostrorum justiciarum escaetorum vicecomitum balli-
“ norum seu aliorum ministrorum quorumcunque volumus insuper et concedimus
“ per presentes eiisdem custodibus et communitati misterie predicte et successoribus
“ suis quod ipsi et successores sui habeant et obtineant; et habere et obtinere pos-

“ sint. Tam presentes litteras nostras patentes quam omnia et omnimoda brevia
“ ac litteras regias executorias et confirmatorias in hac parte de tempore in tem-
“ pus fiendi et proseguendi absque aliquo fine et feodo inde in Cancellaria
“ nostra heredum vel successorum nostrorum seu in hanaperio ejusdem Cancel-
“ larie ac alibi quoquo modo taxandi imponendi fiendi soluendi et capiendi. Et
“ quod custos sive clericus hanaperij predictae aut ejus deputatus ibidem pro tem-
“ pore existente inde quieti et in compoto suo ad successorum nostrorum et here-
“ dum nostrorum reddendi exonerati existant imperpetuum. Statuta de terris
“ et tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponenda aut aliquibus aliis statutis ac-
“ tibus ordinationibus restrictionibus sive mandatis in contrarium factis editis sive
“ ordinatis aut fiendis seu ordinandis aut aliqua alia causa re vel materia quacun-
“ que aut eo quo expressa mentio de certitudine premissorum seu de aliis donis
“ sive concessionibus prefatis custodibus ibidem et communitati mistere predictae
“ et successoribus suis antea factis in presentibus immine existit in aliquo non
“ obstante. In cujus rei, &c.

“ Memorandum quod tenor presentium prosequutus fuit secundum rectum
“ cursum legis et consuetudinis regni Anglie videl. Warrant superius scriptoris
“ cum manu Regia assignatus directus ad signetum Regium v't per eundem
“ Warrant penes clericos ejusdem signeti remanend plene liquet de Record; ;
“ virtute cujus Warrant exiuit aliud Warrant sub signeto Regio verbatim cus-
“ todi privata sigilli Regii v't per eundem Warrant penes eunde custodem
“ privati sigilli remanend plenus apparet virtute cuique Warrant exiuit priva-
“ tum sigillum pari forma Cancellario Anglie v't per eundem privatum sigil-
“ lum penes eunde Cancellarium remanend apparet ad largum cujus pretexto
“ idem Cancellarius fieri fecit litteras Regias patentes sub magno sigillo Regio
“ signatas in forma subscripta.”

JOHN COLET, D.D. the Founder of this school, was born in London in the year 1466. He was the son of Sir Henry Colet, Knight, mercer and citizen of London, who had acquired great wealth with a most unblemished character, and had been twice elected lord mayor, in the years 1486 and 1495. This, the only surviving child of eleven sons and an equal number of daughters, who died in their infancy, received, as it has been traditionally believed, the early part of his education at St. Anthony's school in Threadneedle-street, then the most eminent seminary, for the learning of that period, in London, and which has long since fallen into decay. Newcourt, in his *Repertorium*, represents his removal to the University of Oxford to have taken place in 1483, where he continued during seven years in the ardent pursuit of knowledge, but more particularly attaching himself to the study of logic and philosophy. He then proceeded to his degrees in Arts, and had not only rendered himself familiar with the works of Cicero, but was no stranger to Plato and Plotinus, which he read and compared for their mutual illustration*. He could not, however, have studied them in any other way than through the medium of Latin translations; as neither at school nor at the University was there, at that time, any opportunity of learning Greek, a language which the strange prejudices of the age may be said to have encountered with prohibitions to the teaching of it. In mathematics also he had made a very great proficiency, and having obtained, in the language of Wood, "a most admirable competency in learning at home," he determined to enlarge it by travel through foreign countries. He went first to France, and then to Italy, and appears to have remained on the Continent from 1493 to 1497. Previous to the commencement of his travels, when he was but nineteen years of age, and only two years standing in the University, he was presented, by Sir William Knyvet, a relation of his mother, to the rectory of St. Mary Denington, in Suffolk, which

* Wood's *Ath. Oxon.* edit. by Bliss, vol. I. fol. 22.

he held to the close of his life; and by his father, to Thryning, in Huntingdonshire, in which he was instituted in 1493, but resigned it in 1499*.

On his arrival at Paris, he sought the society of the learned, and, among others, became acquainted with Gaguines, the French historian, who had been ambassador at the court of Henry VII. from that of France, and the celebrated Budæus, who first excited in him the desire to become acquainted with Erasmus, whose friendship afterwards contributed so much to the honour and happiness of his life. In Italy he contracted an intimacy with many distinguished persons; especially with his own countrymen, Grocyn, Linacer, Lilly, and Latimer, who were learning the Greek tongue, then but little known in England, under those great masters, Demetrius, Angelus Politianus, Hermolaus Barbarus, and Pomponius Sabinus. It is not to be supposed that, with his thirst of knowledge, he hesitated to avail himself of this opportunity to make acquisitions in the knowledge of the Greek language: but he more earnestly devoted himself to divinity, and studied while abroad the best of the ancient Fathers, particularly Origen, Cyprian, Ambrose, and Jerome; at the same time, it is said that he rather undervalued St. Augustine: nor did he seem to prefer Aquinas, Don Scotus, and other schoolmen. He also studied the civil and canon law; made himself acquainted with the history and constitution of church and state; nor did he neglect the best English writers of that period, both in prose and verse, in order to perfect his style and render him an eloquent preacher. Polydore Virgil, one of his contemporaries, mentions, that he was, by an early and natural disposition, inclined to piety and religion; and therefore, as soon as he approached the age of manhood, and was well instructed in all those arts and sciences which are called Humanity, he applied himself to divinity, choosing St. Paul as his particular

* The practice of taking livings while thus under age generally prevailed in the Church of Rome; and Colet being an Acolythe, which is one of their seven orders, was duly qualified.

master, and studiously exercising himself in the writings of the great Apostle, both at Oxford and Cambridge*. Erasmus also states in his character, written at large and in the warmth of affectionate admiration, that, while a youth, he acquired all that could be taught by scholastic philosophy, and well deserved his title of Master of Arts and Sciences, being perfectly versed in every one of them. Cicero's works he had read with a fond and eager attention; nor had he neglected those of Plato and Plotinus, and had pursued his studies through every branch of mathematical science, &c. "Adolescens apud suos, quicquid est scholasticæ philosophiæ diligenter perdidicit, ac Titulum assequutus est qui septem liberalium artium scientiam profitetur. Quarum nulla erat in qua ille non fuisset gnæviter ac feliciter exercitatus: nam et libros Ciceronis avidissime devorarat, et Platonis Plotinique libros non oscitanter excusserat, nec ullam mathematices partem intactam reliquit," &c.

During his foreign travels he was made a Prebendary of York, and installed by proxy on March 5, 1494: he was also advanced to the canonry of St. Martin's Le Grand, London, and the Prebend of Good Easter in the same church. On his return to England in 1497, he was ordained Deacon in the month of December, and in July following he entered into Priest's orders.

It is a very attractive and interesting part of this admirable man's character, that he was a real philosopher, another Socrates, who mastered all his evil propensities, though under the guidance of a more exalted morality than the pagan sage is known to have enjoyed. Dr. Colet was inclined by nature to love,

* Polydore Virgil, lib. xxvi. fol. ult.—His studies at Cambridge were of a transient nature. That University, it seems, lay in the road from his residence in Suffolk to Oxford, and he is supposed to have made an occasional stay there, to derive any advantages which that seat of learning might offer to him.

† *Epist. Eras. Jodoco Jonæ.*

luxury, and sleeping indolence; fond of wine, and addicted to levity both in manners and discourse; of a very high and impatient spirit, and not without a tendency to avarice*: yet these various and powerful propensities he so completely conquered, from a mental conviction of the consequences attached to their indulgence, that he became chaste, abstemious, indefatigable in his pursuits, temperate, grave, generous, and a rare example of meekness and humility†.

He might certainly have made choice of his profession, if he had been disposed to the active pursuits of life, or have enjoyed the independence of ample fortune, having a sufficient estate for his support, and a fair interest to recommend him at court for any suitable office and employment, as he had the advantage, in the opinion of Erasmus, of a tall and comely person. “Accesserat his fortunæ com-
“modis corpus elegans ac procerum.” To the life of a courtier he might have been encouraged by his father, Sir Henry Colet, who, being accustomed to the figure of the high offices to which he had been elevated, and the consequence derived from his character and opulence in the city, and from his loyal conduct, had been an object of royal favour. But piety and love of learning prevailed; and fixing his determination to enter into holy orders, he thus renounced the temptations of his birth and fortune‡.

* Siquidem animo præditus erat insigniter excelso, et omnino injuriæ impatientissimo, ad venerem ac luxum, ac somnum mire propensus; ad jocos ac facetias supra modum proclivis. Hæc ipse mihi fassus est; nec omnino tutus a morbo philargyriæ.—ERAS. *Epist.*

† Explorata est *Coleti* ingenua pietas, cujus minimam portionem debebat naturæ suæ. Opes in pios usus dissipavit; adversus animi celcitudinem rationa pugnavit, adeo ut a puero quoque moneri se pateretur. Venerem, somnum ac luxum, abstinencia cænæ perpetua, jugi sobrietate, indefessis laboribus studiorum, sanctisque colloquiis profligavit.—*Ibid.*

‡ At fortasse hoc nomine plus laudis meretur, quod nec indulgentia fortunæ, nec impetu naturæ longe alio trahentis, potuerit ab Evangelicæ vitæ studio depelli.—*Ibid.*

With this excellent spirit, says Dr. Knight*, to whom this brief biographical sketch is so much indebted, the admirable young man would not, on his return from the Continent, trust himself among the allurements of the city and of the court, but, after staying a few months at his paternal home, from a respectful sense of duty and affection to his family and friends, he retired to Oxford, to enjoy the opportunities of a pious and studious life; yet not to be buried in learned obscurity and fruitless research. On the contrary, he commenced a new and active scene of public instruction, by reading lectures on the Epistles of St. Paul, which he continued during three years, without any reward or stipendiary remuneration: and though he had taken no degree beyond that of Master of Arts, there was not a Doctor in Divinity or Law, or Abbot, or any other dignitary in the church, who did not gladly attend him.

At Oxford he became personally acquainted with Erasmus, and a friendship between these admirable persons commenced, which continued inviolate to the close of their lives. Erasmus came to England about the latter end of the year 1497; and, after a short stay in London, hastened down to Oxford, where he was welcomed with a most courteous and hospitable reception from Father Richard Charnock, Prior of the Regulars of the Order of Austin, in the college of St. Mary the Virgin. This eminent divine and amiable man represented his guest "as a very excellent person, and endued with singular virtues." This character given by the prior, added to the established celebrity of Erasmus, increased the wish of Colet to request the acquaintance and friendship of the illustrious visitor. This he immediately expressed in an epistle, of which the following is an interesting extract. After stating his reputation for talents, knowledge, and virtue, he thus proceeds: "For this reason, my Erasmus, as far as learning and insight into things, and a sincere goodness, can make impression upon one who rather

* Knight's Life of Dr. John Colet, Dean of St. Paul's, and Founder of St. Paul's School, *passim*.

“ wishes for these talents than he dares pretend to them; so far, in right of those
 “ accomplishments, you are and must be always most acceptable to me. As soon
 “ as I can see you, I shall, in my own person, do for myself what others have
 “ done for you in your absence, commend myself to you with a better grace than
 “ others have recommended you to me; for, in truth, the *less* ought to be com-
 “ mended to the *greater*, and the *least knowing* to the *more learned*. But if there be
 “ any thing in a person so inconsiderable, wherein I can, in any way, be agree-
 “ able or useful to you, I am entirely bound to your service. I congratulate
 “ your arrival in this island, and hope my countrymen will prove as pleasant to
 “ you, as I know, by your great learning, you must be useful to my country. I
 “ am, sir, and always shall be, devoted to one whom I believe to be the most
 “ learned and the best of men. Farewell.—From my chamber in Oxford*.”

To this epistle Erasmus transmitted such an answer as might be expected from
 him, which is given, as the former has been, in Dr. Knight's translation of them
 from the original Latin. After expressing the extreme pleasure and honest pride
 which had been excited by the commendations of such a man, Erasmus proceeds
 in the following manner: “ For my own part, I best know my own failings, and
 “ therefore shall presume to give a character of myself. You have in me a man
 “ of little or no fortune, a stranger to ambition, of a strong propensity to loving-
 “ kindness and friendship, without any boast of learning, but a great admirer of
 “ it: one who has a profound veneration for any excellence in others, however
 “ he may feel the want of it in himself; who can readily yield to others in learn-
 “ ing, but to none in integrity: a man sincere, open, and free; a hater of false-
 “ hood and dissimulation; of a mind lowly and upright, who boasts of nothing
 “ but an honest heart. If, my dear Colet, you can love such a man, and think
 “ him worthy of your friendship, you may account me your own as fully and

* *Epist. Eras. 1497.*

“ effectually as you can call any thing your own. England is most pleasant to
 “ me for many reasons, but especially that it abounds with those blessings, with-
 “ out which nothing would relish with me, men of admirable learning, among the
 “ chief of whom I do not hesitate to mention you.”

* * * * *

“ You speak whatever you mean, and you mean whatever you speak; words
 “ arise from your heart rather than from your lips: in short, you have that happy
 “ facility, that you can deliver without pains, what another can scarcely express
 “ without the greatest labour. But to yourself I refrain from your praises, that I
 “ may not offend against decency, knowing how unwilling they are to be praised
 “ who deserve the highest eulogiums. Farewell.—Oxford, 1498*.”

This characteristic picture of these two illustrious friends may receive a pleas-
 ing addition from the introduction of Father Charnock, who was the intimate
 and valued friend of them both; nor can a more honourable testimony be given
 of his merit, than his being united by Erasmus in all the virtues which he, with so
 much warmth, sincerity, and truth, attributes to Colet. In a letter from Oxford,
 dated 1498, to his late pupil, Lord Mountjoy, then on his travels, he thus ex-
 presses himself: “ Nothing can be more sweet, lovely, and charming than the
 “ temper and conversation of these two men: I could live even in Scythia, or
 “ in any the remotest part of the world, with two such delightful friends and
 “ companions.”—“ Dicit non potest, quam mihi dulcescat Anglia tua; idque partim
 “ consuetudine, quæ omnia dura lenire solet; partim *Coleti Charnocique*; quorum
 “ moribus nihil fingi potest suavius, mellitius, amabilius. Cum his duobus amicis,
 “ ego vel in extrema Scythia vivere non recusem†.”

In 1501 he was admitted to proceed in Divinity, or to the reading of the sen-

* *Epist.* Eras. 1498.

† Eras. *Ep.* Gul. Montjoio.

tences. In 1502 he became Prebendary of Durnesford, in the church of Sarum; and in January, 1504, resigned his prebend of Good Easter. In the same year he commenced D. D.; and in May, 1505, was instituted to the prebend of Mora, in St. Paul's, London. In the same year and month, he was advanced to the dignity of Dean in that church, without the least application of his own; and being raised to this high station, he began to reform the discipline of his cathedral, which had fallen into disuse. He introduced a new practice of preaching himself on Sundays and great festivals, which he executed with great eloquence and ability, and called to his assistance other learned persons, such as Grocyn and Sowle, whom he appointed to read Divinity Lectures; exciting in the nation by such means a spirit of inquiry after the Holy Scriptures, which had long been laid aside for the school divinity; and eventually promoted the Reformation, which soon after shone with its bright beam on this country.

That this excellent man was instrumental in forwarding that great event, there can be no doubt, though he did not live to see it. He had expressed a great contempt of religious houses and monastic institutions, exposed the abuses that prevailed in them, and set forth the danger of imposing celibacy on the clergy. This way of thinking, together with a free and public manner of communicating his thoughts, which were then considered as impious and heretical, made him obnoxious to a large part of the clergy, and exposed him to persecution from Dr. Fitzjames, Bishop of London, who, being a rigid bigot, resented the attack made upon the corruptions of the church; and therefore represented him to Archbishop Warham as a dangerous person, and went so far as to prefer certain articles against him. But Warham was too well acquainted with the worth and integrity of Dr. Colet to listen to such accusations, but dismissed the charges, without giving the dean the trouble to put in any public or formal answer. The bigoted prelate, however, mortified as he was by this fruitless attempt, zealously endea-

voured to stir up the king and the court against him: and Bishop Latimer mentions the prosecution of Dean Colet for heresy, "and that he was not only in " trouble, but that he would have burned, if God had not turned the king's heart " to the contrary*."

These troubles and persecutions seemed to have had the effect of turning him from the concerns of the world, and to produce the resolution of retiring from it. He had a plentiful estate, without any near relations; for, as it has been already observed, he had survived all his numerous brothers and sisters; and as he had already expended his annual revenues in the demands of piety, bounty, and charity, he resolved to consecrate the whole of his property to some standing and perpetual benefaction. Some doubts, however, appeared, as might be naturally expected from a mind anxious to do good, what work or design would promise the most ample and certain advantage to the church and nation, both in views of the present age and those which were to come. The channels of public charity in England had long since been directed to the building of churches; the foundation of monasteries, religious houses, and the establishment of chauntries then succeeded; and afterwards the erection of colleges, and the making of permanent provisions for students in the Universities.

The latter class of benevolent institutions, under a new and superior degree of regulation, was the best suited to the notions he had formed and the views he entertained of an improving system of education. There were about this time persons, of high rank and great wealth, who were engaged in founding colleges in the Universities; but it is evident that he had formed decided objections, and no doubt on the most solid experience, against such establishments. It is even related by the historian of Oxford, that Henry VII. had manifested an intention to become a benefactor to that University, but was diverted from his benevolent

* M. Latimer's Sermons, 1595, p. 174.

design by the low state of its learning. It was represented to him, and without doubt the information was correct, that the scholars despised Greek, and loaded any one who studied that language with opprobrious epithets; and being the disciples of Scotus and Aquinas, addicted themselves wholly to a contentious sophistry; while the monks disgraced their character by sensual immoralities. To enlighten and improve the rising generation, to open new paths to learning, and to invite the student to search into the forgotten stores of Greece and Rome, was the well-weighed design of Dean Colet's anxious, enlarged, and virtuous mind. He considered that the more polite learning of Italy, which was now spreading abroad by the invention of printing, and which he called *Bonæ Literæ*, or improved literature, consisting of the knowledge and practice of the Greek and Latin tongues, would produce the most beneficial effects in advancing genuine knowledge and real learning, by clearing away the mists of ignorance, superstition, and sophistry which had so long obscured them. He wisely thought that these languages would promote the understanding, and consequent imitation of the pure eloquent writers of antiquity; would unfold the genuine sense and sublime beauties of the sacred writings; tend to display the state of the primitive church, as well as the reason and simplicity of religion, before they were perplexed and defiled by the errors or perversions which had been blended with the church of Rome, or had become a part of it, and were, with great art and industry, maintained in their schools and colleges. Hence it was that he thought that there could be no better mode employed to restore learning, and ensure its advancement, than by providing a grammar-school for the instruction of youth in the two subsidiary languages of Latin and Greek; to obtain the true sense, seize the spirit, and enjoy the beauties of classic authors; to acquire the art of speaking and writing with purity and elegance, and thereby lay the best foundation of academical studies. Thus being the founder of such a grammar-school, he proposed,

in effect, to be a restorer of the two Universities, by preparing and fitting the youth of the nation for the most beneficial reception of the advantages that may be derived from them.

Having settled in his own mind the character and objects of the foundation which he meditated, his next consideration was the spot whereon he should erect it. The circumstances of his birth, family, ecclesiastical dignity, and the existing state of learning, settled the point, and he accordingly resolved to establish it in the metropolis of the kingdom, and in the vicinity of the metropolitan church. London was his native place, wherein his father obtained his wealth and honours, and in whose cathedral church he bore the highest office. Besides, the state of public schools for the education of youth in the city at that time was lamentably deficient; and he had formed an opinion, no doubt from his own judgment and observation, that the sons of his fellow-citizens possessed, from their situation and early communication, a more prepared state for the reception of learning than those of the inhabitants of the country.

It may indeed be observed, that, within thirty years previous to this period, more grammar-schools had been erected and endowed in England than had been established in the three preceding centuries; and by this noble and, as it may be comparatively called, sudden impulse of Christian charity, the progress of the Reformation, which succeeded, is thought by several sagacious and eminent writers to have been quickened and advanced.

He seems to have employed some years in erecting the buildings necessary for the school, forming the statutes for its regulation and government, providing suitable masters, and settling its ample endowments in trustees for ever. It was begun in the year 1508, according to Alexander Nevyl and Polydore Virgil; by Grafton and George Lilly it is stated to be in 1509, by Cooper and Holinshed in 1510. It is probable that the building was finished in the latter year, as the fol-

lowing inscription was placed on the front next the church: "Schola catechisationis
" puerorum in Christi opt. max. fide et bonis literis, anno Christi M.D.X." Wood,
however, carries it on to the year 1512, when Dean Colet was at the charge of
four thousand five hundred pounds for the foundation of his school, and endowed
it with a hundred and twenty pounds yearly for the maintenance thereof. In the
prologue to the statutes the school is also said to be "bylded in 1512:" and this
must be considered as the correct date of the foundation, it having been so stated
by the accountant of the Mercers' Company before a committee of the House of
Commons in 1816*.

Several accounts of this school are given by contemporary writers, by Holinshed, Polydore Virgil, Sir Thomas More, and others; but we shall select that which has been left by Erasmus, a favourite name, and whose warm, sincere, and admiring friendship, as well as his great and renowned qualities, give him an irresistible claim to be preferred. It is as follows, from the translation of Dr. Knight:

" Upon the death of his father, Colet being, by right of inheritance, advanced
" into opulence, lest the keeping of it should corrupt his mind, and turn it too
" much towards the world, he laid out a great part of it in building a new school
" in the churchyard of St. Paul's, dedicated to the child Jesus, a magnificent
" fabric; to which he added two dwelling-houses for the two several Masters,
" and to them he allotted ample salaries, that they might teach a number of boys
" free and for the sake of charity. He divided the school into four apart-
" ments: the first is the porch and entrance for catechumens, or the children to
" be instructed in the principles of religion, where no children are to be admitted
" but such as are prepared for it by being qualified to read and write. The second
" part is for the lower boys, to be taught by the Second Master or Usher; the
" third for the upper forms, under the Head-Master: which two parts of the school

* *Minutes of Evidence on Education*, &c. p. 295.

“ are divided by a curtain, to be drawn at pleasure. Over the Master’s chair is
“ an image of the child Jesus, of admirable work, in the attitude of teaching,
“ ‘Docentis gestu,’ whom all the boys, as they enter and leave the school, salute
“ with a hymn. ‘Quem totus grex, adiens scholam ac relinquens hymno salu-
“ ‘tat.’ There is also a representation of God the Father, saying, ‘Hear ye him,’
“ *Ipsium audite*, which words were introduced at my suggestion. The fourth, or
“ last apartment, is a small chapel for divine service. The school has no corners
“ or hiding-places, and contains not any kind of cell or closet. The boys have
“ their distinct forms or benches, one above another. Every form holds sixteen;
“ and he that is head or captain of such form, has a little desk by way of pre-emi-
“ nence. Boys are not promiscuously admitted, but are selected according to
“ their parts and capacities. The wise and sagacious Founder conceived, that the
“ greatest hopes of public virtue and happiness had the most rational foundation
“ in the training up of children in pure learning and true religion; for which
“ purpose he laid out a very large sum of money, and yet would admit no one to
“ bear a share in this expense. Some person having left a legacy of one hundred
“ pounds sterling towards the fabric of the school, Dean Colet had his reasons for
“ declining to employ it for that purpose; and, therefore, obtained leave of the
“ bishop to have that money expended in sacred vestments for the church of St.
“ Paul. At length, after he had completed his work, the fruit of his religion, his
“ learning, and public as well as private virtue, he left the perpetual care of its
“ concerns, not to the clergy, nor to the bishops, nor to the chapter of his church,
“ nor to any courtier or statesman, but among certain married citizens, ‘Cives
“ ‘aliquot conjugatos,’ men of integrity and established character, of whom the
“ Mercers’ Company were known to consist. And when he was asked the rea-
“ son of giving this form to the important trust, he answered, ‘That there was no
“ ‘certainty in human affairs; but that, in his opinion, there was less probability

“ ‘ of corruption in such a body of citizens, than in any other order or degree
 “ ‘ of mankind.’ ”

This PROLOGUE introduces the statutes of the school.

“ JOHN COLET, the sonne of Henrye Colet, Dean of St. Paul's, desiring no-
 “ thyng more thanne education and bringing uppe children in good maners and
 “ litterature, in the yere of our Lord A.M. fyve hundred and twelfe bylded a
 “ schole in the estende of Paulis church of CLIII to be taught fre in the same:
 “ and ordeyned there a Maister and a Surmaister, and a Chappelyn, with suffi-
 “ ciente and perpetuale stipendes ever to endure, and sett patrones and defenders,
 “ governours and rulers of that same schole, the most honest and faithful fellow-
 “ shipe of the Mercers of London. And for because nothyng can continue longe
 “ and endure in good ordre without lawes and statutes, I the said John have ex-
 “ pressed and shewed my minde what I wolde shoulde be truly and diligentlie
 “ observed and kepte of the sayde Maister and Surmaister and Chappelyn, and
 “ of the Mercers, governours of the schole, that in this boke may appere to what
 “ entent I founde this schole.”

The space allotted to this work will allow of little more than the following abstract of the statutes.

“ The HYGHE MAISTER, in doctrine, learning, and teachinge, shall direct all
 “ the schole: a man hoole in body, honest and vertuous, and lerned in good and
 “ cleane Laten litterature, and also in Greke; a man single or married, a priest
 “ with no benefit or cure, or any service that may lett the due besinesse in schole.”
 —He is to be chosen by the Company of Mercers, who are to charge him to teach
 the children not only good literature but good manners; and that he is to preserve
 his situation only while he fulfils his duty, which is to be examined on a Candle-
 mas-day at the school. He is not to absent himself without licence of the surveyors
 for the time being. His lodgings were to consist of the whole story over the hall

and chambers, and a little middle chamber in the house-roof, and the gallery on the south side, and the cellars beneath the hall, the kitchen, and the buttery, with all the implements of his house. "All these lodgings he shall have free without any payment, and in this lodging he shall dwell and kepe household to his power."—His wages shall be a mark a week, and a livery-gown of four nobles delivered in cloth. His absence shall be once in the year, and not above thirty days, which he shall take *conjunctim* or *divisim*: and if he be afflicted with an incurable disease, or very much advanced in years, he was to be suffered to depart with a pension of ten pounds; but if he resigns voluntarily, then ten months' notice was required. If he was afflicted only with temporary illness, his salary was to be continued, and the Surmaster to be paid by him for extraordinary duty. On his demise the Surmaster to be chosen in preference to other candidates. The dean's house in Stebenhig, or Stepney, was also given to the High Master, and the Mercers' Company to keep it in repair.

The attainments of the SURMASTER were to equal those of the High Master, by whom he was appointed. The surveyors attended at the school, when the Master presented his Assistant to them, and they solemnly charged him to fulfil his duties, or expect a discharge from it. The Company of Mercers must, however, approve the choice, and assign him his lodgings in the Old Change. His wages were 6s. 8d. a week, and a livery-gown like that of the High Master; and, if convenient, he might take commons with him. When overtaken with decay and age, he was strongly recommended by the pious and humane Founder to the kind consideration of the Mercers' Company. If both the Masters should be so afflicted with illness as to be both at the same time disqualified for their duty, the school was to be shut, but the salaries continued. The Surmaster's notice of resignation was to be six months. Neither of the Masters were to enjoy lectures or professorships.

A poor child was to keep the school clean, and sweep it on Saturdays, as well as the leads; and the Mercers to repair it.

The CHAPLAIN was also to be an honest priest, appointed by the wardens and assistants of the Mercery. He shall also learn, or, if he be learned, teach in the school, if the High Master shall desire it. He was to have no benefice with cure or service, nor other office or occupation, but attend only upon the school. He was also appointed to teach the children their Catechism, the Articles of their faith, and the ten Commandments, in English. His wages were 8*l.* by the year, with a livery-gown of 26*s.* 8*d.* His chambers or lodging were to be in the new house in the Olde Chayn, or in the Master's house, as might be most convenient. It was his duty to sing mass every day in the chapel; and to pray that the children might prosper in good life and in good literature, to the honour of God and our Lord Christ Jesu. And it was ordered, "at his masse when the bell in the schole
" shall knyll to sacringe, then all the children, in their seats, shall, with lift up
" hands, pray in the time of sacringe. After which, when the bell knylleth
" agayne, they shall sit down agayne to their bokes and learninge."

The school was to receive children of all nations and countries indifferently, to the number of *one hundred and fifty-three**, according to the number of seats in the school: but they must be already qualified to read, write, and repeat their Catechism. Each scholar was to pay 4*d.* admission-money, to be given to the poor scholar who swept the school; and bring his own wax candles, as in no time of the year was tallow permitted. One scholar was appointed to preside over every form; and the teaching was to commence at seven in the morning and continue till eleven; recommence at one, and close for the day at five: with prayers in the morning, at noon, and in the evening. There was to be neither eating nor drinking in the school; nor cock-fighting, nor "riding about of victorye," and no holidays or

* Alluding to the number of fish taken by St. Peter, *John* xxi. 11.

“remedyes*,” under the penalty of 40s. from the High Master; unless commanded by the king, archbishop, or bishop, at the school in person.

The scholars were ordered to attend at St. Paul’s on Childermas-day, to hear the boy-bishop’s sermon: when, at high mass, every member of the institution was to offer one penny to the boy-bishop†.

In their processions they were to proceed two and two, and devoutly repeat, but not sing aloud, seven Psalms and the Litany.

If a scholar of this school were permitted by his parents to attend any other, he would be expelled, without a possibility of readmission; and this notice was given on his first entrance.

The dean thus expresses himself as to what shall be taught in his new foundation: “As touching in this scole what shall be taught of the Maisters and learned
“of the Scholars, it passeth my witte to devyse and determyne in particular, but
“in general, to speake my mynde, I would they were taught always in good literature bothe Laten and Greke, and good autors, such as have the verry
“Romeyne eloquence joined with wisdom, especially Cristen autors that wrote
“their wisdome with cleane and chaste Laten; others in verse and prose: for my
“entent is by this scole especially to encrease knowledge and worshippinge of
“God and our Lord Christ Jesu, and good Cristen life and manners in the chil-

* Play-days.

† It may be mentioned, that the boy-bishop was one of the choristers of a cathedral, chosen by the rest to officiate from Nicholas-day to the evening of Innocents-day, in episcopal vestments; and if he died in the interval, was buried with prelatic state and ceremonial. Dr. Knight does not reconcile the apparent superstition of this statute to the enlightened mind of Dean Colet: but it is probable, that he wished to give his school the figure and publicity of the procession connected with it; or that this old custom, as some one has observed, gave a spirit to the children, and encouraged the hopes, that they might one time or other attain to the real mitre; and consequently incited them to that learning and those virtues which might qualify them to attain it.

“dren. And for that entent, I will the children learne, first, above all, the Cate-
 “chism in English, and after the Accidens that I made, or some other, yf any be
 “better to the purpose, to induce children more spedely to Laten speeche. And
 “then *Institutum Christiani Hominis*, which that learned *Erasmus* made at my
 “requeste, and the boke called *Copia* of the same *Erasmus*. And that other
 “autors Cristen, as *Lactantius*, *Prudentius*, with *Proba* and *Sedulius*, and *Juven-*
 “*cus* and *Baptista Mantuanus*, and suche other as shall be thought convenient and
 “most to purpose unto the true Laten speeche: all barbary, all adulterate Laten
 “which ignorant blinde soles brought into this worlde, and with the same dy-
 “stained and poysonyd the old Laten speeche and the veraye Romaine tongue
 “which, in the tyme of *Tully* and *Salust*, and *Virgil* and *Terence*, was said; which
 “also Sainte *Jerome* and Sainte *Ambrose* and Sainte *Austen*, and many holy doc-
 “tors, lernid in theyre tymes. I say that fylthiness, and all suche abusyon whiche
 “the later blynde worlde brought in, whiche more rather may be called blotte-
 “rature than litterature, I utterly abannyshe and exclude out of this scole; and
 “charge the Maisters that they teache alwaye that is beste, and instruct the chil-
 “dren in Greke and Laten in redyng to suche autors that hathe with wisdom
 “joyned the pure chaste eloquence.”

To the Honourable Company of Mercers of London, and all the assistance of
 the fellowship, were entrusted the care and charge, rule and governance of the
 school; and they are charged to elect eleven persons annually, free of their com-
 pany, as “Surveyors of the scole.” These men are to receive the rents of the
 endowments, and transact all affairs relating to them and the school. Twenty
 shillings was also bestowed per annum on the “Renter,” and a gown of 13s. 4d.
 value. The Surveyors were, at the same time, commanded to pay the different
 salaries in the school quarterly; and when the annual accounts were audited,
 which was some time about Candlemas, an assembly should be appointed, and

“ a litell dinner ordeyned by the Surveyors, not exceeding the price of fower “ nobles.” The Master-Warden of the Mercers to have a noble if present, and the Wardens 5s. each. The Surveyors 11s. each for their labour for one year; and the same sum if they rode to visit the estates. The Bailiffs were to renew their rentals every year; and the lands of the school were to be let by the space of five years.

Dean Colet solemnly charges the Company of Mercers to guard and promote the interests of the foundation for ever, to the utmost of their ability, as they fear the just vengeance of God for neglecting them; and to make such other regulations for the governance of the school as time and circumstances may render necessary, with the advice and assistance of good-lettered and learned men.

According to Dr. Knight, the dean estimated the annual expenses at 79*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* and the annual overplus at 38*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*

Thus having established his foundation, which will perpetuate his name to the latest posterity, he selected the most approved and qualified persons to be Masters of the same, Mr. William Lily and Mr. John Righthouse. The former was recommended in the strongest manner by Erasmus for his learning, talents, and virtues; and whose name has been perpetuated by the grammar which bears it, though the labour was divided between him and Colet and Erasmus, in which some improvements were afterwards made by Cardinal Wolsey for his projected school at Ipswich. Indeed it is to the honour of St. Paul's School, that the principal grammars for the study of the Latin and Greek languages, throughout the kingdom, should have been the works of its Founder and first Master, and Mr. Camden, who was one of its scholars.

The love of retirement now seemed to increase upon him, and to indulge it the dean built a suitable house near Richmond, in Surry, for his future residence; but being twice seized by the sweating sickness, and relapsing into it a third time,

a consumption ensued, which proved fatal September 16, 1519, in his fifty-third year. Thus closed the life of the Founder of St. Paul's School, an honour to his own day and his own age, as he would have been to any day and any age.

He was buried in the choir of his cathedral, with an humble monument, which had been prepared for him several years before, and with no other inscription than his solitary name. A memorial, more suited to his character and his fame, was afterwards erected to him by the Company of Mercers, which was destroyed with the cathedral in the dreadful conflagration of that church in 1666; but the representation is still preserved in Sir William Dugdale's *History of St. Paul's**, and in Dr. Knight's Life of the Dean. On the two sides of the bust was this inscription: "John Colet, D. D. Dean of St. Paul's, and only Founder of Paul's School, departed this life *anno* 1519; the son of Sir Henry Colet, Knight, twice mayor of the cyty of London, and free of the company and mistery of Mercers." Beneath there were other inscriptions in Latin. In about 1680, when the church was taking down to be rebuilt, his leaden coffin was found inclosed in the wall, about two feet and a half above the floor. At the top of it was a leaden plate fastened, whereon was engraved the dean's name, his dignity, benefactions, &c. Besides his preferments already mentioned, he was rector of the fraternity or gild of Jesus in St. Paul's church, for which he procured new statutes, was chaplain and preacher to Henry VIII. and, if Erasmus is correct, one of the king's Privy Council.

His works are as follows: 1. "Oratio habita à Doctore Johanne Colet, Decano Sancti Pauli, ad Clerum in Convocatione, anno 1511."—2. "Rudimenta Grammatices a Johanne Coletto, Decano Ecclesiæ Sancti Pauli, Londin. In usum Scholæ ab ipso institutæ," commonly called "Paul's Accidence," 1539, 8vo.

* The skeleton part of this fine old monument was discovered in 1782 to be still existing, and was placed under the care of Mr. Gould, the deputy surveyor and principal verger.

—3. “The Construction of the eight Parts of Speech, entitled *Absolutissimus de octo Orationis partium Constructione libellus*,” which, with certain alterations and additions, forms the Syntax in Lily’s Grammar, 1530.—4. “Daily Devotions, or the Christian’s Morning and Evening Sacrifice.”—5. “Monition to a good Life,” 1534, &c.—6. “*Epistolæ ad Erasmum*.” Many of them are printed among the Epistles of Erasmus, and some at the end of Knight’s Life. There are still remaining in MS. others of his compositions, which are enumerated by his biographer*. He wrote but few sermons, as he preached generally without notes.

The ancient school shared in the conflagration of 1666, and was rebuilt by the active zeal of the Mercers’ Company, under the particular direction of Robert Ware, Esquire, Warden of the school, as appears by the following inscription in the library:

Pueri in hac Scholâ gratis erudiendi sunt
 CLIII tantum ad numerum sedium:
 Quod faustum sit et felix!
 Ad seræ posteritatis imitationem, famæque suæ
 Æternitatem: post luctuosam urbis Londini deflagrationem
 A. D. M.DC.LXVI. amplissima Mercerorum Societas,
 Fidem fundatori τῷ μακαρίτῃ datam, sanctissimè persolvens,
 Scholam hanc de integro extruendam suscepit
 A. D. M.DC.LXX. perfecit, D^{no}. RICARDO FORD, Equite, urbis Prætoze,
 RICARDO CLUTTERBUCK Armigero, Societatis Magistro:
 Scholæ vero custode totiusque negotii assiduo diligentissimoque,
 Procuratore ROBERTO WARE Armigero.
 Ευλογία Κυριε επι κεφαλῆς δικαιο. PROV. x. 6.
 Η μνημὴ αὐτῆ μετ’ ἐγκωμίων. PROV. v. 8.

* A principal object of his writings was to promote the right instruction of his school, which he has affectionately expressed to Lily, in his letter to him with the little tract on the Construc-





THE SCHOOL ROOM OF ST. PAUL'S

The elevation of St. Paul's School is uniform, and, in a more advantageous situation, would attract attention as an example of elegant architecture. The structure is a parallelogram, extending north and south, almost directly facing the chancel of St. Paul's church. The north wing, consisting of large and elegant apartments, is occupied by the High Master; the south, equally commodious, by the Surmaster; while the Usher occupies a house in the Old Change to the east of the building. The school-room is a spacious apartment, at whose south end is an elevated chair, with Dean Colet's arms, and the crest of the Mercers' Company carved in a wreath of flowers.

An old bust of the Founder, copied and improved by the late Mr. Bacon, in statuary marble, is placed above the High Master's seat; and on the left side of it is the bust of the Rev. Mr. Thicknesse, who occupied it during twenty-one years: the memorial was placed there by the voluntary subscription of his grateful scholars. Over the high seat is inscribed, "*Intendas animum studiis et rebus honestis;*" and over the entrance is the appropriate injunction, "*Doce, disce aut discede.*"

It is a free-school, and confined to tuition alone which is strictly classical, and without any charge, but the payment of one shilling on the entrance of each boy. The admission of the scholars is in the Mercers' Company, and the acting trustee is an annual officer delegated by them. They act in the government of the school

tion of the eight Parts of Speech. It is dated 1513. "Methinks, my dearest Lillye, I bear the same
 "affection to my new school as a parent does to his only son, to whom he is not only willing to pass
 "over his whole estate, but is desirous even to impart his own bowels also: and as the father thinks
 "it to little purpose to have begotten a son, unless by diligent education he raises him up into a
 "good and useful man, so to my own mind, it is by no means sufficient that I have raised this
 "school, and have conveyed my whole estate to it (even during my own life and health), unless I
 "take all possible care to nurture it in good letters and Christian manners, and bring it on to some
 "useful maturity and perfection. For this reason I send you," &c. &c.

by the regulations of the statutes, possessing a discretionary power given by the Founder, with a due foresight to the probable events and varying circumstances of succeeding times. The gross average income of the school is between 5 and 6000*l.* per annum, arising from the revenues of landed estates and the interest of money in the funds.

The salaries of the Masters are in the following degrees: The High Master* 618*l.*; the Surmaster 307*l.*; the Usher 227*l.*; and the Assistant-Master 257*l.* The late High Master, Dr. Roberts, who filled that office with great reputation, diligence, and learning for forty-five years, and has attained a very advanced period of life, receives an annual allowance of 1000*l.* settled on him for the remainder of it†.

This act of the Mercers' Company must not be passed by without the applausive observation which it so justly claims. St. Paul's School is indebted for its existence to a fortune raised by a most honourable man and highly dignified citizen of London, with which his son, Dean Colet, was enabled to establish a foundation for the promotion of that learning, piety, and virtue, which had rendered his own life illustrious. He also erected it in the city where the wealth, to which it owes its foundation, was acquired; and placed it under the direction of that civic gild, or honourable association of citizens, to which he who had created the fortune belonged. The reverend Founder, with a liberality of mind that was not always a feature of the ecclesiastical character in those days, entrusted the care of this institution, the fruit of commercial acquisition, to commercial men; and they have fulfilled their trust in all the branches of their duty. The teachers appointed to the important office of its instruction, are known to be qualified with talents and

* The High Master is allowed the privilege of taking boarders; but that is a private concern.

† Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the education, &c. *passim*.

learning equal to those of the great collegiate foundations: but St. Paul's School has not had kings for its nursing fathers, nor queens for its nursing mothers, nor mitred churchmen for its founders, nor noble and powerful patrons with the beneficial contingencies of settled or expectant patronage; and therefore its teachers, though with equal qualifications, have not those rewards in prospect to which the instructors of collegiate establishments direct their hopes and expectations. But here we see the Mercers' Company of London, with a just sense of superior deservings, and a generous wish to recompense them, has conferred on the learned and venerable Dr. Roberts 1000*l.* per annum, to give repose, comfort, and honour (for reward is the highest honour, when it is so well deserved,) to the closing years of a long life, the larger portion of which has been passed in the important service of instructing youth; a recompence of which there are very few, if any, examples from the private funds of similar institutions.

Such of the scholars as are destined to the University are sent on exhibitions from a benefaction founded by Lord Camden, which is separate from the estate of the school, and on those arising from the school foundation. They are not limited as to number, and are continued for seven years. The first amount to 100*l.* and the latter to 50*l.* per annum.

MASTERS in 1816.

High Master, Rev. J. Sleath, D. D. F. S. A.

Surmaster, Rev. R. Edwards, A. M.

Usher, Rev. W. Durham, A. M.

Assistant-Master, Rev. I. P. Bean.

SCHOLARS in 1816.

EIGHTH CLASS.

Simeon John Boileau.

* William Hockin.

MONITORS.

Sotherton Backler.

John Thomas Hinds.

Alfred Ollivant.

Thomas Beckwith.

Edward Morton.

Francis Walsh.

Ephraim Hemings Snoad.

Francis Henry Ramsbotham.

Benjamin Weeding.

* Thomas Platt.

SEVENTH CLASS.

Joseph Hemington Harris.

George Bridgman.

Lawrence Gwynne.

William Goode.

Markland Barnard.

Joseph Burchell.

Josiah Pratt.

James Henry Stone.

Charles Chalklen.

Joseph Charles Philpot.

Edward Bloxsome.

George Beaumont.

Edward Judge.

Henry Charles Clinton.

John Colley Taunton.

John Gore.

Anthony Rich.

George Harries.

Henry Wright.

Frederick Earle.

George Innes.

Henry Spencer.

George Thomas Robertson.

Samuel Harton.

SIXTH CLASS.

Henry Rees, sen.

John Williams.

William Rees, jun.

Edward Whitaker, jun.

Henry Nethersole.

Henry Tizard.

George Macaulay.

John Allen.

Henry Morris.

Thomas Tomlins.

* Robert Whitaker.

Thomas Skilbeck.

William Powell.

James Lee.

William Bull.

James Soames.

Joseph Harrison.

Peter Bull.

Thomas Arnold.

William Copeland.

Thomas Andrews.

FIFTH CLASS.

Charles Griffith.

James Johnstone.

Edward Earle.

James Gowers.

Augustus Radcliffe.

James Vale.

Robert Saxton.

Disney Robinson.

William Simpson.

George Burn.

Christopher Heath.

Howard Egan.

John Taylor.

Terrance Egan.

Oswald Bloxsome.

Joseph Allen.

Arthur Taunton.

William Lemaitre.

Frederick Cookney.

William Hockin.

FOURTH CLASS.

Charles Bassano.

John Hurle.

George Lovell.

Samuel Lane.

William Soames.

Henry Jones.

Robert Wilks.

Henry Harris.

Henry Heath.

Edward Steele.

Ernest Beaumont.

John Edwards.

Thomas Fleming.

Charles Watson.

George Bartley.

Thomas Hallet.

Benjamin Harman.

Thomas Lock.

Thomas Sutton.

Thomas Wilkinson.

Charles Shackleton.

Thomas Parsons.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.

31

THIRD CLASS.

Septimus Ollivant.

Thomas Holt.

Joseph Evans.

Richard Norris.

John Beaumont.

William Williams.

Edward Kirby.

William Watson.

John Mountford.

George Pratt.

John Winter Jones.

Christopher Keating.

William Rose.

John Watney.

Edward Rye.

Frederick Halliday.

Henry Schedel.

Charles Taunton.

Edward Clutterbuck.

Daniel Lay.

William Spencer.

Thomas Penny.

James Greenwell.

SECOND CLASS.

Benjamin Thompson.

Henry Hurle.

George Absolom.

Henry Lowe.

William Jones.

Thomas Rose.

Thomas Barton.

Edward Van Heythuysen.

Francis Walsh.

Lens Brown.

Edward Townsend.

Charles Morley.

William White.

William Frost.

John Brown.

Frederick Jones.

Nehemiah Bartley.

George Gwilt.

Charles Aldis.

William Hewson.

George Parry.

Horatio Hughes.

FIRST CLASS.

William John Box.

Robert Dibdin.

John Mayer.

John Evans.

Joseph Hennah.

George Dent Johnson.

Thomas Romer.

Richard Johnson.

Thomas Steele.

John Bryne.

Charles Moore.

John Gillingham.

Those marked () are not on the foundation.**HIGH MASTERS of ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL from its Foundation in the Year 1512.*

1512. WILLIAM LILY* . . . 10 years.	1581. John Harrison 15 years.
1522. John Ritwyse 10	1596. Richard Mulcaster . . . 12
1532. Richard Jones 17	1608. Alexander Gill, sen. . . 27
1549. Thomas Freeman . . 10	1635. Alexander Gill, jun. D.D. 5
1559. John Cooke 14	1640. John Langley 17
1573. William Malin 8	1657. Samuel Cromeholme . . 15

* Dr. Samuel Knight, in his Life of Dean Colet, gives a particular account of this eminent teacher, scholar and grammarian, which is followed by the literary biography of his highly qualified successors in the distinguished office of High Master to the year 1721. The characters of those who have succeeded give an equal occasion for the eulogiums of subsequent writers.

1672. Thomas Gale, D. D. . 15 years.	1737. George Charles, D. D. . 11 years.
1697. John Postlethwayt . . 16	1748. George Thicknesse* . . 21
1713. Philip Ascough 8	1769. Richard Roberts, D. D. 45
1721. Benj. Morland, F.R.S. 12	1814. J. SLEATH, D. D. F. S. A.
1733. Timothy Crumpe . . 4	

* GEORGE THICKNESSE was educated on the foundation at Winchester School. He was elected Chaplain of St. Paul's School October 5, 1737; Surmaster 1744; and High Master in August, 1748. He was a man of great learning, wisdom, and moderation; he considered boys as rational beings, and to be governed by reason, not by the rod; and, without its use, that school, by his incessant assiduity, was raised to the highest reputation. The Mercers' Company had such an opinion of his worth, and so much gratitude for his services, that in 1769 they settled upon him, during his life, an annuity of 100 guineas, and desired him to name his successor. Dr. Roberts accordingly succeeded him in the High Master's chair.

William Holbech, Esq. a bachelor of large fortune at Farnborough, in Warwickshire, whose memory will be ever revered by all who knew him, had been Mr. Thicknesse's friend from the time he was upon the foundation at Winchester; and when he resigned St. Paul's School, that worthy man desired him to retire to a wing of his old mansion-house at Mollington, which he had left standing for that purpose many years before. When Mr. Thicknesse arrived at this pleasant remnant of hospitality and goodness, he found a good fire burning upon all the hearths in the house; his bins filled with wines, and an annuity upon his table, the donation of the generous owner: but, alas! before the revolution of one year, whilst Mr. Thicknesse and he were at dinner together, that excellent man, in June 1771, threw his head back in his chair, and died without a groan. A character of him appeared in one of the County Papers thus concisely and truly drawn: "His hospitality was, according to the Apostle, without grudging; his integrity was unshaken; his benevolence was universal; and his piety towards God was sincere." Mr. Thicknesse, who was one of his executors, sent an express to Dijon, to recall his nephew and heir, who was just got thither on his way to Italy.

Soon after the death of Mr. Holbech, Mr. Thicknesse chose to leave the habitation allotted him, and to live in a hired house in the parish; and in 1784, upon the death of the proprietor of Arlescote, he became the tenant of the old mansion-house there, where he passed the remainder of his days, "beatus; procul negotiis; ambitione procul:" continuing to receive the annuity of 50*l.* settled on

Among those persons, distinguished for their learning and piety, their eminent qualities and public services, who received their education in this school, the following names are recorded:

Sir Anthony Denny, Gentleman of the Bedchamber to Henry VIII. :—
Sir William Paget, Privy Counsellor to Henry VIII. and the three succeeding

him by his excellent friend of Farnborough. Mr. Thicknesse survived Mr. Holbech many years; but died Dec. 18, 1790, in his 77th year, almost as suddenly; and though he left his pleasant abode, he never quitted the neighbourhood where so valuable a friend had invited him to spend the evening of his days. Humility distinguished every part of his life, but particularly the last act of it: for he directed "his body to be put into a common coffin, like a common man (*for such*, said he, "*I am*), and to be buried on the north side of Warmington churchyard, without any memorial to "mark the spot;" where (to use the words of Sir Philip Francis, K. B. who was his scholar) "the "wisest, the most learned, quiet, and the best man he ever knew, was laid." His virtues made those who were connected with him happy; his temper made himself so. That vulgar celebrity which men call fame, he regarded with indifference; if that had been his object, his eminent talents would have entitled him to a considerable portion of it. But, while he lived, he heard with pleasure that his name was remembered with an affectionate veneration by his numerous scholars at their annual meetings. Though he is now beyond the reach of their gratitude, his claim to it did not end with his life. Something remained to be done, for an example to those who come after us, to unite the memory of this incomparable man with the existence of that school, and to preserve them together as long as learning shall exist in this kingdom.

This grateful duty was performed in 1791, when at a public meeting of eighty-one gentlemen, at their anniversary, on St. Paul's day, January 25, it was unanimously resolved, "That a public "testimony should be given of their respect to the memory of the late Rev. George Thicknesse, "and of their veneration for his name: that a marble bust be carved at the expense of the meeting, "and placed in the body of the school; and that it be earnestly recommended to the present and "all future Masters of the school, to instruct the scholars of the upper classes, to make honourable "mention of the name and character of Mr. Thicknesse immediately after that of Dean Colet, in "their annual speeches delivered in the school at Easter*."

Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century*, vol. IX.

sovereigns :—Edward North, afterwards Lord North, Baron of Kirtlinge, Cambridgeshire :—John Leland, the learned antiquary :—William Whitaker, Professor of Divinity, and Master of Trinity College, Cambridge :—William Camden, the antiquarian writer :—John Milton, the poet :—Sir Charles Scarborough, physician to Charles the II. James II. and William III. :—Samuel Pepys, Esquire, an early President of the Royal Society :—Sir Thomas Davies, Knight, Lord Mayor of London :—the pious Robert Nelson, Esquire, author of many religious works :—Richard Cumberland, Bishop of Peterborough :—George Doddington, Esquire, father of the late Lord Melcombe :—the Rev. Roger Cotes, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, Professor of Astronomy in that University, and the associate of Sir Isaac Newton :—Sir John Trevor, Master of the Rolls :—Archibald Earl of Forfar :—Charles Duke of Manchester :—John the great Duke of Marlborough :—Sir Edward Northey, Attorney General :—Hooper, Bishop of Bath and Wells :—Bradford, Bishop of Rochester :—Long, Bishop of Norwich :—Mawson, Bishop of Ely :—Spencer Compton, Speaker of the House of Commons :—Spencer Cooper, Chief Justice of Chester :—Sir Soulden Laurence, Knight, one of the Justices of the King's Bench :—Lord Frederick Campbell; and Dr. Garnet, Dean of Exeter.

THE END OF THE HISTORY OF ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.



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